

28

**Military/RCMP Veterans
Against Annuity
Benefit Reduction at age 65**

To: Our Supporters

Info: Mr. Peter Stoffer, MP
Sackville-Eastern Shore
Mr. C.J. Wallace
Publisher
Veterans Voice Info

June 2, 2010

Subject: Veterans News.

Dear Veterans and Friends,

While we are pausing for the summer months, the enclosed information is deemed to be important to Veterans.

- Certificate of Service – NDI 75
- Via Rail free travel for serving and retired Military.
- Message from Peter Stoffer, MP

Certificate of Service – NDI 75:

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE — NDI 75

The following information is provided by DND/CF in regards to:

1. NDI 75 Record of Service Card;
2. Certificate of Service; and
3. CF Service Pin.

Texte français à suivre lorsque disponible.

NDI 75 RECORD OF SERVICE CARD

Please read and follow the instructions carefully. There is no need to call as the application form is posted to our website at www.cpva.ca. Note that there is a long backlog of up to six months to obtain the card.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Write to the same address as indicated on the form to obtain a replacement certificate of service (release certificate) as well as your service pin.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Concerning the possible entitlement to a *Record of Service Card - NDI 75*.

Note - this is often mistakenly referred to as a Veteran's Card or Veterans Identification card, in essence it is a pocket size Certificate of the member's record of service. Thus Record of Service Card.

2. The *Record of Service Card - NDI 75* is issued to members leaving or who have left the Canadian Forces, with 10 or more years of service.

3. If you meet the eligibility criteria, use the application form attached. It is imperative the information required is legible. Complete with the member's: **Service Number, Military ID Number or Social Insurance Number**. Two colour passport-type photographs measuring 1½" x 2". Processing time after this office receives the application, is approximately **3-6 months to mail the card to applicant**.

Mail to: *Record of Service Card - NDI 75*
Director Military Careers Administration 4
National Defence Headquarters
MGen George R. Pearkes Building
101 Colonel By Dr
Ottawa ON K1A 0K2

4. Replacement of the *Record of Service Card - NDI 75* may be **requested with** a cost of \$15.00 **payable** in the form of a Postal Money Order made payable to the *Receiver General for Canada*.

This information has kindly been provided to the CPVA by NDHQ. **Please follow the instructions**, complete the form posted at www.cpva.ca. enclose your documents, photos and payment, and do **avoid calling** as they are extremely busy trying to meet the demand. Please **do not contact the undersigned** or info@cpva.ca as we have no further information at this time. For updates, please consult our website at www.cpva.ca.

**Via Rail free travel for serving and retired Military:
(ATTACHED)**

Message from Peter Stoffer below:

On May 5th, my motion to reinstate all the clauses of Bill C-201 was approved by a majority vote. Bill C-201 aims to eliminate the unfair benefit reduction (clawback) of retired and disabled Canadian Forces and RCMP service pensions. We are pleased that all NDP MPs supported this motion and the majority of Liberal and Bloc Québécois members supported this motion. Some Liberal and Bloc members abstained from the vote or were not present. Almost all Conservative MPs voted against my motion, one Conservative MP

voted for it, and one abstained. You can find the details of how your MP voted at this website: <http://openparliament.ca/bills/votes/923/> or at www.parl.gc.ca.

Right after the motion was approved to reinstate the clauses of C-201, the Speaker ruled that the bill be “discharged and dropped from the order paper” because it was not accompanied by a Royal Recommendation. That means that the bill is now dead. (The Speaker ruled last spring that certain private members bills require a Royal Recommendation because they propose the expenditure of public funds. Bill C-201 was one of these bills. I also asked the Speaker to reconsider the need for a Royal Recommendation on the basis the bill could be implemented by re-distributing certain program funds instead of requiring a new allocation of funds but the Speaker did not concur. Please see attached document that explains the Royal Recommendation process).

As the Conservative government was not willing to provide their support or a Royal Recommendation, the bill can go no further in this parliamentary session and is dead. A Royal Recommendation may only be obtained by the Government and presented by a Minister. May I also say that had the Conservative government implemented my Veterans First Motion in 2006, the elimination of the benefit reduction of CF and RCMP service pensions would be underway. My Veterans First Motion was adopted by the majority of the House in November 2006. And it was Harper that said “...the government is duty bound to respect the decisions made by the House of Commons” (Hansard, 2005).

Although I am disappointed that the bill is dead, we had many successes along the way. The issue became national in scope under the great leadership of John Labelle, Roger Boutin, and Mel Pittman, Wayne Wannamaker, Jim Lumsden, and many, many others across the country.

CF and RCMP veterans coordinated a campaign that gained the support of over 110,000 individuals. Organizations including the Royal Canadian Legion (500,000 members), the Army, Navy & Air Force Veterans in Canada Association (20,000 members), and the Air Force Association in Canada (12,000 members) expressed their support for this initiative as well as members of the Yukon and Nova Scotia legislature. And, at the Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs, we were successful in convincing CF and RCMP pension administrators that more communication is needed about how and why service pensions are reduced at age 65 or earlier. We were also successful in convincing the federal government that they need to address the injustice of reducing disabled CF and RCMP service pensions.

I would like to thank John Labelle, Roger Boutin, and Mel Pittman, who are constituents from my riding of Sackville-Eastern Shore, for all of their work over the last five years. I also want to thank every single person who called, emailed, or wrote their Member of Parliament about

the unfair reduction of their service pension. It is through your hard work that the bill made it this far in the parliamentary process.

As the New Democrat Critic for Veterans Affairs, I will continue to work on ways we can correct this injustice of behalf of our veterans and their families. I plan to re-introduce the bill in the next Parliament (after the next election) and will continue to press the Conservative, Liberal and Bloc Québécois MPs about the importance of ending the unfair reduction of CF and RCMP service pensions. The bill, if passed, would have helped alleviate the financial pressure on many retired and disabled CF and RCMP veterans and their families.

Thank you again for your tremendous interest and support for Bill C-201.

Sincerely,

Peter Stoffer, MP, Sackville-Eastern Shore

2900 Hwy #2 Fall River, NS B2T 1W4

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Email: stoffp0@parl.gc.ca

Please distribute far and wide.

If you wish to receive our information, interested supporters can forward their e-mail address to the undersigned. We use the BCC format in a confidential e-mail address block list. We never release your e-mail address.

Sincerely,

John Labelle

Campaign Coordinator

florencejohn@ns.sympatico.ca

(Trust the Lord! Serve the People!)

Important site:

www.veteranvoice.info

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